



February 2, 2022

Dear Families,

We realize the student handbook isn't the most exciting thing to read on a regular basis. For those of you who may be looking for some help falling asleep at night, the entire handbook can be found on our school website. For purposes of today's newsletter, we are sharing excerpts from page 13 of the handbook regarding food at school. Please pay particular attention to those items highlighted in red.

Snack and Treat Policy

We recognize the importance of healthy snacks along with the importance of celebrations on occasion, and certainly want to continue these traditions at Renaissance. However, to be good stewards of our school facility and to serve as role models for our students when making nutritional decisions and to be responsive to those children who have food allergies or other dietary restrictions, we have implemented the following policies with regards to snacks and birthday treats at school.

- **Treats with icing/frosting are not permitted. Cakes and cupcakes are not permitted at school.**
- Any special treat such as for a birthday must be
 - Pre-arranged with the teacher prior to the day of the "celebration"
 - Brought in by the student at the start of the school day
 - **Individually, pre-packaged** before sending to school to assist teachers in passing them out to students.
 - Non-perishable - We do not have the ability to refrigerate or freeze items.
 - To protect classrooms from interruptions, students will NOT be permitted to take treats around the building during the school day.
- **Students may only bring water to drink during the school day.**
 - Soda, coffee, smoothies, and power drinks are not allowed in the school. Any such drinks brought to school must be disposed of before entering the building.
 - Students may bring a healthy drink in their lunch if a cold lunch is packed. It may only be drunk during lunch period.
- Classroom snacks must be dry.
 - Dry snacks include fresh fruits, vegetables, crackers, cereal, granola bars, etc.
 - Snacks not allowed include juice filled items such as fruit cups, puddings, etc.
- School breakfast is available for all students.
 - Breakfast may not be brought from home to be eaten at school.

- *Only school breakfast may be eaten at school.*
- ***Students may not bring fast food, donuts, bagels, etc. into the school to be eaten before school begins.***
- *Students not wishing to eat the school provided breakfast should plan to eat before they arrive at school.*
- *A student must bring their cold lunch to school with them at the start of the school day.*
 - *Fast food and delivered food is not allowed.*
- *Classroom celebrations may deviate from this policy on occasion with prior approval.*
- *Students in classrooms with classmates who have food allergies will be required to follow additional required safety protocols to ensure the health and safety of all students.*
- *Students do not have access to a refrigerator or microwave during the school day.*
- *These guidelines apply for any groups using our building (outside the cafeteria) after school hours or for activities taking place after school.*

UPCOMING SCHOOL CALENDAR EVENTS

- Monday, February 7 - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS - Staff PD Day
- March 28 - April 1 SPRING BREAK
- Wednesday, April 20 - STUDENT LED CONFERENCES (No School for Students)

Project Based Learning - How can I support my child at home?

A key component of Project Based Learning is generating student engagement through their curiosity, interests, and passions. One of the most important strategies for this is letting students be the ones to ask the questions. When students' questions are guiding the lessons, they feel more ownership of their learning. When you ask your child about school, try these small changes in language that will encourage them to do the wondering and be more responsible for their learning:

Instead of asking this...	Try asking this instead...
What did you learn today?	What made you curious today? What did you wonder about today? What were you most proud of today? What is something your class talked about today that you are still thinking about?
What have you learned about that topic?	What are you wondering about that topic?
How is school going?	What are you excited to learn about right now? What is most challenging for you right now?
Did you ask your teacher for help?	What strategies did you try?

Did you know Seesaw is a great way to stay connected to what your child is doing in the classroom? Asking about specific activities they completed during the school day can be a great way to get the conversation started.



You can comment on your child's work in Seesaw by clicking on the speech bubble under each post. For younger learners (or to save time) you can also leave a voice comment! Just look for the microphone after you open the comment box.